

during rollcall vote 398 and rollcall vote 407. On rollcall vote 398, I would have voted "aye" and on rollcall vote 407, I would have voted "nay."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 3, 2011*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes 408 and 409 on June 2, 2011. If present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote 408 and "no" on rollcall vote 409.

#### CONGRATULATING NISWONGER FOUNDATION

Tennessee in the house of representatives

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 3, 2011*

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Niswonger Foundation as last month it celebrated its 10th year of service to Northeast Tennessee this month.

The Foundation's work is known by an ever growing number of students and teachers in my district. Its school partnership and scholarship programs are aimed at educating and improving our region through the betterment of its young leaders. Niswonger scholars are chosen based on their proven leadership in the community, strong academics, character, and a pledge to return to our area to work, and lead, in their chosen profession. This need-based scholarship offers students the opportunity to attend the college or university of their choice.

Likewise, the Foundation established the Northeast Tennessee College and Career Ready Consortium, an ongoing partnership with public high schools that will eventually touch 29 high schools and 26,100 students. This program gives county schools best practices, provides additional resources for Northeast Tennessee's dedicated teachers, and gives students a challenging and engaging academic atmosphere in preparation for college or a career.

Again, I commend the Niswonger Foundation and its founder Scott Niswonger on ten years of life-changing service to Northeast Tennessee.

#### RABBI TOMER AND EFRAT GROSSMAN

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 3, 2011*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Rabbi Tomer and Efrat Grossman moved to Riverdale from Israel three years ago as Jewish Agency Shlichim of Bnei Akiva. Rabbi Grossman worked as the main Shaliach of Bnei Akiva in North America, and helped run Bnei Akiva activities at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale.

In response to the warmth of the HIR community and its strong connection and commitment to Medinat Israel, Rabbi Grossman organized an Israeli Seder, an Israeli Minyan for

Simchat Torah and two fundraisers—one after the Carmel Fire and another for poor families in Israel.

During his stay in Riverdale, Rabbi Tomer was appointed by the Jewish Agency as the Head of Formal Educational Shlichim in North America and as the main organizer of the National Bible Contest. He is currently the rabbi at Brandeis School in Long Island.

Tomer was born in Petach-Tikva and learned at Yeshivat Hagolan in Hispin. He served in the army as a tank commander and as a Division Rabbi in the Reserved Forces, in addition to working as a programming manager at Motorola.

Efrat, as a designer, immediately fell in love with the HIR community's creativity and open mindedness and participated in last year's Shavuot programs and gave a lecture in Hebrew.

Efrat works as a Hebrew literacy teacher at Ma'ayanot Yeshiva High School for Girls as well as a pottery artist. Efrat was born in Jerusalem, and continues a dynasty of more than 10 generations in Israel. In Israel, she was head of the Visual Arts Department of Ariel University after serving as the Head of the Jewish Education Faculty at Emunah High School in Tiberias.

They have two daughters: Ayala, 8, and Hallel, 8 months old.

This marvelous couple is being honored by the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale with the Community Service Award, and I join HIR in congratulating them and thanking them for all their good work in our community.

#### HONORING MAYOR HENRIETTA BLACKMON OF CAMDEN

### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 3, 2011*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a citizen turned public servant who has earned the admiration and respect of her Southwest Alabama community.

In 2000, Henrietta Blackmon made history as Camden, Alabama's first female mayor. While a newcomer to politics and the campaign trail, Henrietta was by no means a stranger to the people of Wilcox County.

For some three decades before taking office, Henrietta Blackmon was recognized as an invaluable partner in her husband's local medical practice. She administered the business while her husband, Dr. Sumpter Blackmon, treated the sick. In fact, she never relinquished that role even after becoming Camden's chief executive.

Mayor Blackmon came to office on a mandate to take the city in a new direction and she certainly did. Over her three terms as mayor, she revitalized the downtown, balanced the city budget, secured block grants to upgrade the city sewer system and obtained funding that will be used to build a new city hall.

After 10 successful years guiding Camden, Mayor Blackmon surprised many of her friends and supporters when she announced on February 7 that she was stepping down.

However, anyone who thinks the mayor intends to slow down had better think again. She will not only continue to administer her

husband's medical practice, but she has also agreed to help run her son's new local construction business.

Camden has progressed under the progressive leadership of Mayor Henrietta Blackmon and her presence at the helm of the city will be sorely missed. I join with her many friends in wishing Mayor Henrietta Blackmon, her husband, Dr. Sumpter Blackmon, and their family the very best in the days and years ahead.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ALZEN FLOYD

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 3, 2011*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and legacy of Alzen Floyd. He was born March 15, 1919 and passed away on May 20, 2011.

As a young man, Floyd showed leadership by helping his mother in the purchase and renovation of their home while he was just sixteen years of age. In 1937, he joined the U.S. Army and he retired in 1960 as a Sergeant First Class.

After serving his country Floyd returned home and became a prominent member of his community though several entrepreneurial ventures. He owned and operated "Al Floyd's Soul Food," "Al Floyd's Photo Service," and "Al's Security." He would go on to open Broward County's first Black-owned security corporation, "Floyd & Associates Protection Corporation." This company would grow to half a million dollars in assets.

Floyd was a lifetime member of the NAACP and a faithful member of First Baptist Church Piney Grove since 1929, where he was a member until he could no longer attend.

Mr. Speaker, Alzen Floyd's motto was "If I can help somebody." His life was an example of dedicated service: service to his family, service to his country and service to his community. It gives me great honor to recognize his life and his service.

#### TRIBUTE TO MRS. FRANCIE MOORE HANSELL

### HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 3, 2011*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Mrs. Francie Moore Hansell. Children across the country are excitedly looking forward to their last day of school and summer vacations filled with friends and family. While they are focused on their vacation plans, they are also looking ahead to the next school year and wondering who their teacher will be. At Rocky Heights Elementary School in Hermiston, Oregon, students and parents alike will be disappointed when they learn that Francie will not be among next year's teachers because, after 26 years at Rocky Heights, she is retiring at the conclusion of this school year. Over her long career at Rocky Heights, Francie has launched more than 650 second-graders onto their next level of instruction.